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The Ecological Role of Salamanders as Predators and Prey

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Message from the Guest Editor

Salamanders are usually considered to be generalist predators at the population level, but they also display specialization at the individual level, in particular when prey resources available in the environment become more diverse. In addition, salamanders and newts have complex behaviors, bright colors, and are easy to maintain in captivity. Therefore, these amphibians are often used as model systems to better understand prey–predator interactions and the evolution of cryptic or aposematic defensive colorations, both in the wild and in the laboratory. This Special Issue provides an opportunity to highlight new research on the ecological role of salamanders and newts in prey–predator systems, their trophic behavior, and the evolution of their trophic niche in space and time. Particularly welcome are studies that describe the evolution of the antipredator behavior, individual trophic specialization, and the trophic strategies of single salamander species or complex multispecies guilds.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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